

Home Magazine

THE BLUE CARPET.

BY FANNY BURLING.

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THE last, amen floated out from the vestry over the kneeling people bowed forward like a field of wheat before the wind. Upon the high altar the acolyte was smothering out the tall candles and to the rumble of the organ the congregation that is all but the Ladies' Aid—pulsed decorously down the crowded aisles to the day-light doorway.

But the Ladies' Aid poured itself into the vestry as a green and gold snake pours itself into its hole, and no longer awed by the sacredness of the sanctuary, demanded in a chorus of arrogant and every tone of the scale, "Where is the carpet?"

"The carpet?" echoed the distracted rector, his spirit still uplifted from his strenuous exhortation to his people to be good, to live the higher life, "the carpet?"

"Yes, yes, the carpet! Our carpet! It was here last night!" sang the chorus inharmoniously.

The rector's thoughts slowly settled to earth. The new blue carpet! The workmen finished putting it down at 6 o'clock yesterday! Who moved all those heavy pews and took it up again before morning?

"Who took up the carpet?" rolled forth the chorus antiphonal and feminine.

The beautiful blue carpet, which had been sewed for and sung for and cooked for in Ladies' Aid meetings and musicales and rummage sales and fairs all winter long; their beautiful blue carpet, which had been finally selected and paid for, amid much argument, and at last had been laid upon the church floor with the careful supervision of the entire Ladies' Aid in conclave assembled only the day before—their beautiful blue carpet had been spirited away in the night.

That sunny Sabbath morning they had entered the house of worship, not one missing, to read, not upon a soft, blue brilliance but upon a noisy, bare floor. The Ladies' Aid of the Church of the Redeemer rubbed its eyes and surreptitiously pinched itself while the solemn service flowed on.

"Thou shalt not steal," declared Dr. Herrington, and softly the choir responded, "I have mercy upon us and forgive our hearts to keep this law." Who could have stolen their beautiful blue carpet, chanted the Ladies' Aid mentally, "and grant that this day we fall into no sin," murmured the people, "but that all our doings being ordered by Thy governance?"

Where was their carpet? Verily the prayers of the

Ladies' Aid flew upward and their thoughts remained below.

The president, Mrs. Frances Almeron Warren, resourceful and unafraid, asked the same question aloud in the vestry, where the clear mountain sunshine flooded the room with joyousness. Seeing no adequate solution in the group of fluttering ribbons and smart garments—certainly not fashioned like unto Solomon's even in his glory—she demanded the clergy, the deacons and the janitor. Their last that woman, however, independent, calls upon man in times of real stress and danger.

The clergy placed himself at her disposal, likewise the deacons.

Under rigid cross-examination the senior deacon did remember that coming home late the night before he had seen a light in the sacred edifice. The junior deacon, who had gone out to spy out the land, returned with the discovery of tracks of a wheelbarrow in the soft ground behind the church—thought it might be a bicycle.

Here the husband of Mrs. Frances Almeron Warren brought in Brown, the janitor, who was delivered to the President of the Ladies' Aid. He was young, with a suggested air of good breeding about his small, venous hands, hopeless eyes and sensitive lips under the drooping, soft mustache. Life had defeated him in the rather uncertain fight he had put up. Mrs. Frances A. Warren's husband took charge of the case.

"The carpet, Mr. Brown, was on the floor as you are aware, at 6 o'clock last night. This morning it is gone. You are responsible for the care of the building. Did you see any light here last night?"

"Yes, sir."

"Do you know who was here?"

"No one, sir, but me."

"What time did you leave here last night?"

"It was pretty late—after midnight."

"Was the carpet here then?" The Ladies' Aid held its breath.

The janitor did not answer. Mr. Warren repeated the inquiry.

"No, sir," hesitated the janitor, his eyes sticking to the floor.

The Ladies' Aid remembered to breathe, while the President had to grip her hands hard to keep from taking the case from her husband.

"See here, Mr. Brown," continued the prosecution, "you'd better tell the whole truth. What have you done with the carpet?"

Brown raised his long lashes and looked helplessly

into the blue, brown, black and gray orb of the Ladies' Aid. His fingers clung to the tear-splashed face of the secretary.

"My wife wanted one so, ma'am," he murmured to the secretary.

"Wanted what?" cut in the crisp tones of the President.

"A carpet, ma'am," his regard still anchored in the fearful, sympathetic secretary. "She hasn't any carpet. She used to have them at home before she was married. She wanted it, ma'am, and so I took it home to her, ma'am. She don't have much now."

The silence throbbed. The secretary wiped her eyes and Dr. Herrington went over and hid his benevolent hand upon the young fellow's shoulder.

"Did you take all that carpet up last night, Mr. Brown?" resumed Mr. Warren.

"Yes, sir," gulped the prisoner.

"And took it all home on a wheelbarrow?"

"Oh, no, sir! Just a part of it. Annie was so happy over it, sir. She tackled it all down today."

"Where is the rest of it?" pursued Mrs. Frances Almeron Warren.

"In the basement," the gleam of sunshine vanishing from his face as if a lamp had been suddenly blown out.

There was a flutter among the Ladies' Aid. "Do you know, Mr. Brown, that you have committed a crime and can be sent to the penitentiary?" demanded Mr. Warren, severely.

The young fellow's sallow skin paled greenish white. "The penitentiary, sir, don't send me to the penitentiary! What could Annie do without me?" His gaze besought the secretary.

"Thou shalt not steal," said the president of the Ladies' Aid, impressively.

A sweet spring wind from the blue Oquirrh mountains against the blue Utah sky wailed the ray plume of the Ladies' Aid, and a murmur stirred among them.

"Ladies!" interposed the rector. "If Mr. Brown replaces the carpet at once upon the floor, just as it was, can we not forgive him this time?"

The Ladies' Aid tinkled and fluttered and nodded like a summer garden full of birds.

"Come into my study, my son," completed the rector, and he and the janitor read out.

Whereupon the chorus and arpeggios of musical voices, fearful, pitying, excited, resentful, thankful, immediately resumed in the only way to resume.

"Ladies," suggested the subdued president, finally, "there is the old red vestry carpet—couldn't we give her that?"

On the following Lord's Day the red vestry carpet covered the floor of the adobe house on Seventh West, rejoicing to the uttermost the heart of the janitor's wife, while the feet of the Ladies' Aid sank into the blue softness of the carpet for which so much had been sacrificed.

AT THE THEATRES NEXT WEEK.

MINSTRELS WILL MAKE FUN AT MANHATTAN BEACH.



Mme. Mantelli
ST. NICHOLAS
GARDENS.

The sad sea waves will be made glad next week when Primrose & Dockstader's Minstrels will begin a season of merry-making at Manhattan Beach. The company has been rehearsing during the week and will present the identical performance which carried them through such a lengthy and successful engagement at the Victoria. A new vaudeville programme will be offered in conjunction with the Pata spectacle of the "Burning of Rome."

Sig. Montegitelli's Terrace Garden singers will be heard to advantage next week in Aubrey's delightful "Fira Diavola." The cast will consist of the full strength of the company. Genie from the popular grand opera will be sung at the Sunday night concert. Japan by Night, on the Madison Square Garden, has earned its way into favor as a popular resort. The pretty scenes are enhanced by a clever presentation of "The Mikado." The latest novelty in the operas is a Japanese re-enactment of the famous scene of the "Fira Diavola" in a kimono.

At the high tide of success Duss begins its eighth week of its engagement at St. Nicholas Gardens. Mme. Mantelli, the well-known prima donna, will be the work's center. She will be heard in a round of favorite arias. The programme is a judicious mixture of classic and modern selections.

New York's most popular music for a few years past has been the output from which the following is an extract. "And many times there comes a heart of a thing that of a railing tongue, for the one that takes away a man's good name, the other takes away his riches, which is of much less value, and estimation than his good name."

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Amy Angeles
CASINO.

Hammerstein's great vaudeville bill, which has been holding the boards at Paradise roof garden, has only another week to run. Creative's big military band and a new list of European novelties will then be put on. The Wednesday and Saturday matinee will continue.

The floating roof garden on the steamship Grand Republic has maintained its popularity in spite of the cool weather, and on recent hot nights has been well attended. Manager Kerkhamer, who is in a high-class patronage and his programmes have been up to the Broadway standard, stands for the following as leaders of the long list: Miss Gilmore and her twelve Broadway Belles; Frenchie and Lewis, operatic singers; Bates, Miss Trio, refined musical entertainers; Tash, sensational gymnast; Adeline, Rostino, cantatrice; Lillian Tye, the "real Irish girl"; Electric Trio, comedy sketch.

Daily matinees are given at the Brighton Beach Music Hall, where the Kaufman troupe of cyclists, Lewis & Ryan, Claude Tharion, comic singer, and Delmore & Lee will be among next week's attractions. The Trocadero Quartet, Irving Jones, comic singer, Lillian & Shorty De Witt, and Selbini, the bicycle wonder, are a few of Tony Pastor's new headliners.

Pauline Moran and her funny picaresque "The Affairs of the Opera House" will make their first local appearance following their European triumph at Keith's next week. The Harlowe-Lancaster Dramatic Company, Zeno, Carl & Zeno, in an acrobatic novelty, and Fred Herbert's performing dogs are leading numbers in the olio.

At Proctor's Newark theatre, Victor Moore and Miss Blane will present a comedy skit. Mr. Moore is a Newark favorite who but a few weeks ago attempted to rival Mr. Proctor by conducting stock dramatic entertainments at another theatre.

Henry Guy Carleton's play, "His Heart's Delight," which has previously been seen under the title of "The But-terflies," will be the offering of the Proctor Stock Company at the Fifth Avenue.

In the Twenty-third Street's bill of continuous vaudeville and Haywood Moore, tenor; John Mayone & Co., in a character sketch; the Aeolian Four, the Brownings, Russell and Tilden, Ford and Dot West, John Dunn & Co., George Lingard, Gaffney and Baby, and a dozen others.

Up in Harlem the Proctor Stock Company will entertain patrons of the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Street with "Jank," which scored such a hit at the Fifth Avenue last week. Emily Lytton will again appear in the name part. Helen Sallinger and Charles M. Beay will present "The Affairs of the Pink Gown" as the curtain raiser.

MAY MANTON'S HELPS FOR HOME DRESSMAKING.

A FASHIONABLE AFTERNOON GOWN.

Box Plaited Waist No. 4100. Box Plaited Skirt No. 4117.

Veiling in all the light delicate colors is much worn as afternoon gown and is always charming. This very attractive gown shows the material in lettuce green with trimming of cream lace, yoke and cuffs of lace over white and touches of black in the velvet ribbon. The design is one of the latest and is desirable for all pliable fabrics.

The waist is made over a fitted lining that closes at the centre front while the waist proper closes invisibly beneath the box plait. Both front and back are plaited for their entire length. The fronts are gathered at the waist line to produce becoming folds, but the plait of the back leave no fullness and are arranged on lines that give the desired tapering effect. The square yoke is attached to the lining at the right side and closed with the waist at the left.

The sleeves are novel and becoming. The upper portions are box plaited from the shoulders nearly to the elbows, and fall free to form soft puffs. Below them are snugly fitting portions cut in points at the hands, but these last can be omitted and the sleeves cut off at elbow length. The trimming is slipped under the plait, through slits cut at their under folds.

The skirt is cut in seven pieces that flare stylishly at the foot, and is laid in box plaits that effectually conceal the seams and which are allowed to fall free at the lower portion to give a flounce effect. At the back is an inverted plait that is quite flat but provides flounce below.



MAY MANTON'S DAILY FASHION HINT.

This is a sketch of the fashionable may be obtained through The Evening-Post which May Manton describes in the world by following Miss Manton's in these columns to-day. Patterns directions.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is for waist 3½ yards of material, 2½ inches wide; 3 yards 2½ inches wide, 2½ yards 2½ inches wide, 2 yards 4 inches wide, 1½ yards of all-over lace for yoke, collar and under portion of sleeves; for skirt, 10½ yards 2½ inches wide, 9½ yards 2½ inches wide, or 5½ yards 4 inches wide.

The waist pattern, 4100, is cut in sizes for 32, 34, 36, 38 or 40-inch bust measure. It will be mailed for 10 cents. The skirt pattern, 4117, is cut in sizes for a 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30-inch waist measure. It will be mailed for 10 cents.

If in a hurry for your pattern send an extra two-cent stamp for each pattern, and they will be promptly mailed by letter post in sealed envelope.

Send money to "Cashier, The World, Pulitzer Building, New York City."

"WHO STEALS MY PURSE."

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SOME TRUE TALES OF TOPSYTURVYDOM.

SHIPS SAIL ON LAND, TRAINS RUN ON WATER.

Opposite the harbor of Arica, Peru, but several miles inland, there rests on an even level in the midst of the tropical forest a large, full-rigged ship.

She sailed there, or rather was lifted there, years ago, by a giant tidal wave that receded, leaving her stranded.

This is no stranger than a railway train running upon water. This latter could have been seen any day during the winter months at Lake Balkal, in Siberia, while the Trans-Siberian Railway was in process of construction thereabouts. The immense inland fresh water sea is frozen over from November to May, and as soon as the ice was strong enough a regular truck used to be laid down and the trains ran back and forth across the forty miles which separate the eastern and western shores.

The effect, when gazing downward out of the carriage windows, was said to have been most uncanny. So clear was the ice-sheet covering the well-nigh fathomless depths below and so pure the water that thousands on thousands of salmon and other large fish could be plainly seen swimming about, and the startled traveller was almost able to persuade himself that he was being borne by some goblin train over a phantom ocean.

Miles down in the abyssal depths of ocean, amid icy cold and eternal darkness, dwell the deep sea fishes, those strange forms of life whose very existence even was practically unsuspected prior to the Challenger's famous voyage. These fishes are exposed to a risk which no other living organism knows anything of; that, to wit, of falling upward.

Usually the accident overtakes the creature owing to its voracity; for all these deep sea fish are carnivorous, the stronger preying ever on the weaker, even when these latter are their own offspring. In its struggles to escape, the fish seized, being often nearly as large and strong as the attacking fish, carries the latter out of its depth to a higher stratum.

The muscles of neither are strong enough to drive them down again to their proper home at the bottom, for both are more or less exhausted by their exertions, and the result is that both the attacker and the attacked are, owing to the distention of the gases within their bodies, borne swiftly and more swiftly upward to the surface, which they reach in a dead or dying condition. Specimens in this state, ruptured and distorted with agony, are not infrequently picked up; and, as of course, it is but comparatively few that can by accident fall into the hands of the scientists, occurrences of the kind indicated must happen very often.

M. Tissandier, ballooning with two friends above the town of Vincennes, France, a few years back, happened on one of these invisible air holes, which proved to be over a mile in depth the balloon falling that distance with such incredible rapidity that the earth appeared to be rushing up to meet them with the speed of an express train, and the bags of ballast thrown out by the alarmed travellers fell, not downward as might have been expected, but upward. Luckily a deeper stratum of air, answering to the bottom of the hot question, was encountered when they were a few hundred feet from the ground, and the balloon was checked as if by contact with a pneumatic cushion.

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SHAKE NO MORE

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